

The Argus.

C. O. ANDERSON, Publisher.

HOLBROOK, - ARIZONA

This kissing epidemic should be nipped in the bud.

A dentist never takes pains with his work. His patients do that.

A Western man has married a young lady named Loan. She will never be a Loan again, and neither should he.

China may tear it down, but Europe will still have the power to paste her against the Wall whenever occasion requires.

This country fathered twenty-five thousand inventions last year, but it can't be said Necessity was the mother of many of them.

A New Jersey farmer aged 80 is cutting a third set of teeth. He should incorporate his teeth cutting business under the laws of New Jersey.

A good many of the people who think what they will do when they go to heaven would be wiser to think what they will do if they go to heaven.

With all their love of freedom, Frenchmen are extremists. "The king can do no wrong" is not so much worse than "The army can do no wrong."

The formation of a switch trust with unlimited means of controlling the output will be pleasant news to the average bad boy until he discovers it is not that kind of switches.

The life of a president of a South or Central American or West Indian republic is like that described by the Psalmist: his days are short and full of trouble and dynamite.

Wives whose husbands are missing think the men have joined the army, though the aforesaid wives have usually been doing their best to make home seem as much like war as possible.

We are to pay the Sultan of Sulu a salary of \$12,000 a year, but that is none too much for a man with an assortment of wives, particularly if American millinery should take a notion to follow the flag.

If the professor who has discovered that asphalt can be made out of red herrings would now turn the process end for end and show how red herrings can be made out of asphalt the process would possess an enhanced commercial value.

Cousin George is reaping of the best the world affords. A hymn in his honor by Mascagni comes close to being the best that music can do for him in this day. A portrait by Sargent, a poem by Kipling, a statue by Rodin, and a novel by—well, the great American novelist—are now in order.

"Our national prodigalities for giant firecrackers, peanuts and small beer seem to have no considerable educational value." These words of Bishop Potter, concerning the habitual celebration of the Fourth of July, seem to have escaped the English writer who recently bemoaned that America had no satire.

One of the proverbial "long-felt wants" bids fair to be filled in the establishment of schools of domestic economy, which shall teach the arts of housekeeping and of caring for the welfare of family life. If young men are taught to provide the money needed for maintenance of families, it seems desirable that young women should be taught, with equal care, how to apply it to the best advantage.

We observe that one of the magazine has revived the question, "What shall we do with our ex-Presidents?" The best thing to do with our ex-Presidents is to let them alone; to allow them to lapse back into the ordinary conditions of citizenship without any fuss or feathers. That is what they have been doing since the days of George Washington, and nothing has happened in the case of any of them to give cause for change in the system.

The attempt of the Czar to Russinize Finland has driven many of the citizens of that interesting country to seek homes in the United States and will cause many others to do so. The Finns are an intelligent and progressive people. They have made great advances in civilization and want to be left to work out their own national salvation. Illiteracy is almost unknown among them and they have shown a fine capacity for self-government.

In a recent address on vaccination, an English lady physician related some curious stories illustrating the prevalence of smallpox in England just before Jenner's time. In advertisements for servants it was commonly stipulated that they "must be of the Church of England and have had the smallpox." The police, in advertising for

the apprehension of a counterfeiter, gave as one of the marks of identification that the fugitive had "no pock-holes." In a letter from a lady to her son urging him to find a husband for his young daughter, the solicitous grandmother wrote that she was not in favor of early marriages as a rule, but this was an exceptional case, for "Angelina has not had the smallpox, and at any moment the chance of her getting settled in life might be entirely lost. Therefore, it is better to get her married at once."

Somebody gave the Kaiser a farm and he is now a farmer. To be a farmer with but one farm is not enough, and the dispatches have it that he is negotiating for another. Right here is where the Kaiser will find that the conceit can be taken out of him in short order. Old nature must have her own way in spite of imperial commands. The weevil and the potato bug and the grasshopper laugh at the penalties for lese majeste. A scarecrow is more terrible to the predatory birds of the air than the most grandiloquent proclamations of a Dei gratia ruler of millions. To command rain will not bring it. No display of force will wrest a single additional corn stalk from Mother Earth. In short, if Emperor William wants to find out just how abortive his boasted power really is, let him turn gentleman farmer and try a season or two of it. There'll be an excellent moral lesson in it for the somewhat self-assured monarch. A crop or two might be the means of drawing from his facile pen an interesting pamphlet entitled "One Farm Enough!"

The question is asked how the center of population in the United States is determined. It is rather an intricate mathematical problem, but when General Francis A. Walker was superintendent of the census he explained in this way the method by which the point is located: Upon an imaginary board, shaped exactly like the map of the country and having no weight, the population is placed in accordance with the distribution shown by the census returns. Each inhabitant is regarded as having the same weight. Then the point at which the board would exactly balance is designated as the center of population. It will be a difficult question to decide what account may be taken of the people in Cuba and the Philippines, for they will be important factors in locating the next center of population if they are included as inhabitants of the United States. Hawaii and Porto Rico will unquestionably be classed as parts of the nation, which will tend to draw the center point a little south and possibly check its progress westward from the fact that Porto Rico has a population of 815,000, while Hawaii has about 107,000 inhabitants.

After failing in his attempt to reform at one fell swoop the warring instincts of the world, Czar Nicholas has commenced work on a reform entirely within his jurisdiction. He has decided to wipe out the dark blot on civilization existing for more than two centuries—the penal colony of Siberia. This proposed reform is eminently practical and in line with the theory that charity begins at home. The Siberian exile system of punishment, as it has been carried out in Russia, was a clumsy, brutal, and at the same time an expensive method of dealing with criminals. The herding together of the convicts in these penal colonies has not only resulted in producing a hell upon earth within the colonies, but it has handicapped the development of a great portion of the Russian empire. There is a question whether the latter fact has not influenced the Czar's present determination to a greater extent than mere softness of heart and a desire to promote the interests of humanity. Czar Nicholas is a commercial expansionist. The building of the trans-Siberian railway suggests his evident purpose to develop the agricultural resources of Siberia. The maintenance of the penal colonies in that region would, in the future as in the past, deter the settlement of bona fide peasants. The frequent recurrence of famines in the empire has apparently convinced the Czar of the need for improvement of industrial conditions and the trans-Siberian railway is a part of his plan for remedying matters. With the new railway and the Chinese markets now being acquired, there is no reason to believe that the dream of transforming Siberia into a rich agricultural empire soon may not be realized. It will not do to assume that these business considerations are the only ones that have appealed to Czar Nicholas in his decision to abate the Siberian penal nuisance. So far as the testimony goes the present ruler of the Russias is a right-minded man, with the best interests of his people at heart. Doubtless human influences have had a goodly share in shaping his new Siberian policy. But even a reform in the interests of humanity is always hastened when backed up by a few business incentives. Whatever the inspiration, the world will be glad to hear that the word "Siberia" is to lose its horror and will cheerfully extend to Czar Nicholas full measure of credit for the reform.

A good many people don't want to know the truth, if it is opposed to their foolish prejudices.

SCIENCE AND INVENTION

A new growth of trees comes from above, the trunk of a tree does not increase in height. The oldest wood of a tree is in its heart, while the oldest bark is on the outside.

Recent investigation has shown that a bright green line characteristic of the spectrum of the new gas, krypton, is almost certainly identical with the spectroscopic line that characterizes the aurora borealis.

The new French rapid-fire gun, invented by Colonel Humbert, is said to make no flash when fired with smokeless powder. The location of such a gun, concealed in grass or shrubbery, would be completely undiscoverable to an enemy.

At a recent meeting of the Mineralogical Society in London the existence of rubies at Cowie Creek, North Carolina, was discussed, and the opinion of experts was quoted to the effect that these American rubies are comparable in color and brilliance with the finest gems from Burma. The Cowie Creek rubies were first found about fifteen years ago.

By agreement among civilized nations the day is held to begin as the sun crosses an imaginary line drawn through the Pacific Ocean from the North Pole, through Bering straits to the South Pole. The man on the East Cape in Siberia would be the first person to cry "Happy New Year," the Tonga Islander in the South Pacific would be the second.

There are a few instances of protective mimicry in plants, though in general plants protect themselves by spines, hairs and poisonous secretions. The "Stone Mesembryanthemum" of the Cape of Good Hope resembles the stones among which it grows and thus escapes the notice of wild herbivorous animals. It has also been observed that many plants growing in the stony soil of the Karoo have their tubers so like the stones around them that when the plant is not in leaf one cannot be distinguished from the other.

The people of Japan have shown such adaptability to European ideas that particular interest attaches to the conclusion of a writer in the "Transactions" of the Japan Society that the ancestors of the present inhabitants of Japan built the sepulchral chambers called dolmens in that country. No similar dolmens are found anywhere in Asia until the search comes westward to the shores of the Caspian Sea, "and for more closely allied forms it is necessary to go yet farther to Western Europe." It is shown that the original inhabitants of Japan, the Ainos, were driven out by invaders from whom the present inhabitants are descended.

Professor Lawrence Bruner, who spent the year 1898 investigating the grasshopper plague in Argentina, says that only Australia could match Argentina in the singularity of its life forms. It is a country where everything protects itself. "The trees have thorns, the grasses and weeds are provided with thorns and sharp blades, and herbaceous plants are shielded with burs." Forests exist where rains are scarcest, and natives say that sometimes when heavy rains fall the trees die from too much moisture. Some birds, belonging to the same order as our waterfowl, avoid water. Many Argentine birds possess spurs on their wings.

Corrected in Rhyme.

Thackeray was much pestered by the autograph-hunter, says Hodder in his "Recollections." He disliked above all things to write in an autograph album, and often refused those who asked him to do so, and sometimes rather brusquely.

On one occasion the owner of an album, a young lady, was fortunate. Thackeray took her book to his room in order to look it over. Written on a page he found these lines:

Mont Blanc is the monarch of mountains;
They crowned him long ago;
But who they got to put it on
Nobody seems to know.
—Albert Smith.

Under these lines Mr. Thackeray wrote:

A Humble Suggestion.
I know that Albert wrote in hurry;
To criticize I scarce presume;
But yet methinks that Lindsey Murray,
Instead of "who," had written whom.
—W. M. Thackeray.

Comparison of Salaries.

Admiral Dewey's salary amounts to \$37.50 a day, President McKinley's is equal to \$131 a day, Cabinet officers, the Vice President and the Speaker of the House get \$22.22 a day, Senators and Congressmen \$13.90, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court \$29 a day.

Carrier Pigeons Armed.

In China carrier pigeons are protected from birds of prey by apparatus consisting of bamboo tubes fastened to the birds' bodies. As the pigeon flies the action of the air passing through the tubes produces a shrill whistling sound, which keeps the birds of prey at a distance.

Arizona Co-Operative Mercantile Inst.

HOLBROOK, AND SNOWFLAKE

—Wholesale and Retail Dealers in—

General Merchandise



Also Proprietors of the Silver Creek

Flouring Mills, Agents for the Bain Wagon,

Osborne Harvesting Machinery, Oliver Chilled Plows

John Deere Plows and Cultivators, Bridge & Beach

Superior Stoves and Ranges, Gem of Otero Flour,

Cooper's Sheep Dip and Little's Sheep Dip.

Your Patronage is always appreciated, no matter how small your purchase, you may rest assured it will be our aim to sell you the best goods that can be bought for cash, at reasonable prices.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK,

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M.

U. S. DEPOSITORY.

Depository for the Atlantic and Pacific and the Atchafalaya, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Companies.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

JOSHUA RAYNOLDS.....Pres.

M. W. FLOURNOY.....Vice-Pres.

A. A. KEEN.....Cashier

FRANK McKEE.....Ass't Cashier

A. A. GRANT

Authorized Capital.....\$500,000.00

Paid-up Capital, Surplus and

Profits.....\$175,000.00

Holbrook Livery, Feed, and Transfer Stables

Teams at all hours for the Petrified Forest, Moqui Villages and other Points of Interest to Tourists.

Traveling Salesmen taken to any and all parts between Holbrook, Fort Apache and Springerville

New and Commodious Conveyances, Good Teams, Careful Drivers, Stables on Center Street, one-half block south of Santa Fe Depot. A. M. BOYER, Manager.

A. & B. SCHUSTER,

HOLBROOK, A. T. - ST. JOHNS, A. T.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

General Merchandise,

Groceries, Delicacies, Provisions, Tobacco & Cigars, Harness & Saddlery, Hay & Grain, Paints & Oils, Woodenware, Hardware & Tinware, Crockery & Glassware, Guns & Ammunition, Furniture,

Dry Goods, Notions, Fancy Goods, Clothing, Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps, Furnishing Goods, Stationery, Trunks and Valises, Navajo Blankets, Lumber, Wallpaper.

Sole Agents for SCHUTTLER WAGONS and NORTH OF IRELAND SHEEP DIP

Mail Orders Promptly Attended to.